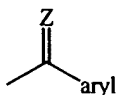
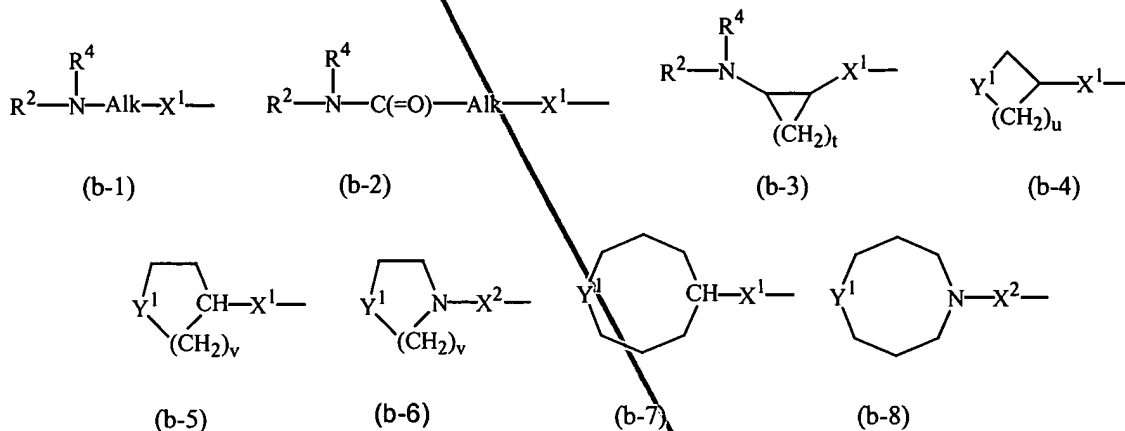


wherein each hydrogen atom in the radicals (a-1), (a-2), (a-3), (a-4) and (a-5) may optionally be replaced by halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, carboxyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, or a radical of formula



wherein =Z is =O, =CH-C(=O)-NR^{5a}R^{5b}, =CH₂, =CH-C₁₋₆alkyl, =N-OH or =N-O-C₁₋₆alkyl;

Q is a radical of formula



wherein Alk is C₁₋₆alkanediyl;

Y¹ is a bivalent radical of formula -NR²- or -CH(NR²R⁴)-;

X¹ is NR⁴, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, O, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂), CH(OH), CH(CH₃), CH(OCH₃), CH(SCH₃), CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b}), CH₂-NR⁴ or NR⁴-CH₂;

X² is a direct bond, CH₂, C(=O), NR⁴, C₁₋₄alkyl-NR⁴, NR⁴-C₁₋₄alkyl;

t is 2, 3, 4 or 5;

u is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

v is 2 or 3; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in Alk and the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7) and (b-8) may optionally be

replaced by R^3 ; with the proviso that when R^3 is hydroxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxy, then R^3 can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C_{1-10} alkanediyl;

R^1 is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, and isothiazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkyl- SO_2-NR^{5c} -, aryl- SO_2-NR^{5c} -, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, $-C(=O)-NR^{5c}R^{5d}$, $HO(-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -, halo($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -, C_{1-6} alkyloxy($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ - and mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is hydrogen, formyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, Hetcarbonyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$, or C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$ and optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{2-5} alkanediyl, piperidinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{5a} , R^{5b} , R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b} , or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula $-(CH_2)_s-$ wherein s is 4 or 5;

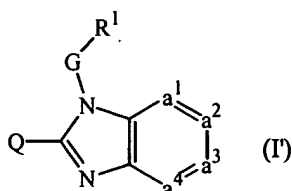
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, formyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl,

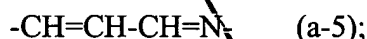
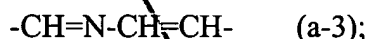
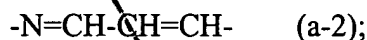
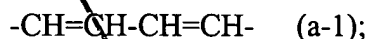
polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, and C₁₋₆alkyloxy;

Het is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl.

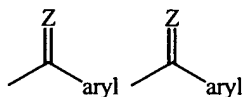
2. A compound of formula (I')



a prodrug, *N*-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- represents a radical of formula

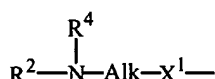


wherein each hydrogen atom in the radicals (a-1), (a-2), (a-3), (a-4) and (a-5) may optionally be replaced by halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, carboxyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, or a radical of formula

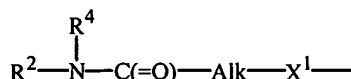


wherein =Z is =O, =CH-C(=O)-NR^{5a}R^{5b}, =CH₂, =CH-C₁₋₆alkyl, =N-OH or =N-O-C₁₋₆alkyl;

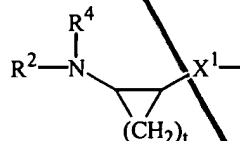
Q is a radical of formula



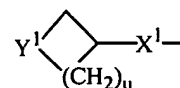
(b-1)



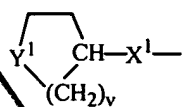
(b-2)



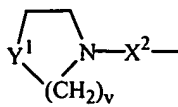
(b-3)



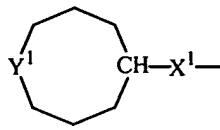
(b-4)



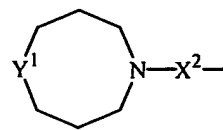
(b-5)



(b-6)



(b-7)



(b-8)

wherein Alk is C₁₋₆alkanediyl;

Y¹ is a bivalent radical of formula -NR²- or -CH(NR²R⁴)-;

X¹ is NR⁴, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, O, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂), CH(OH), CH(CH₃), CH(OCH₃), CH(SCH₃), CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b}), CH₂-NR⁴ or NR⁴-CH₂;

X² is a direct bond, CH₂, C(=O), NR⁴, C₁₋₄alkyl-NR⁴, NR⁴-C₁₋₄alkyl;

t is 2, 3, 4 or 5;

u is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

v is 2 or 3; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in Alk and the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7) and (b-8) may optionally be replaced by R³; with the proviso that when R³ is hydroxy or C₁₋₆alkyloxy, then R³ can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C₁₋₁₀alkanediyl;

R¹ is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl and pyrazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, aryl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkyl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, aryl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, -C(=O)-NR^{5c}R^{5d}, HO(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, halo(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, C₁₋₆alkyloxy(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n- and mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R² is hydrogen, formyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl substituted with N(R⁶)₂, or C₁₋₁₀alkyl substituted with N(R⁶)₂ and

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optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C₂₋₅alkanediyl, piperidiny, mono-or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R³ is hydrogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, arylC₁₋₆alkyl or arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy;

R⁴ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or arylC₁₋₆alkyl;

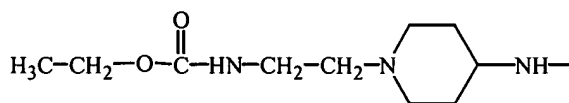
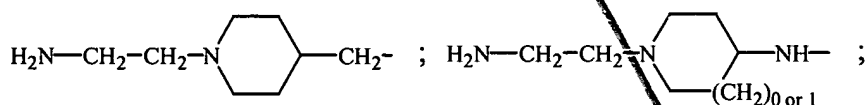
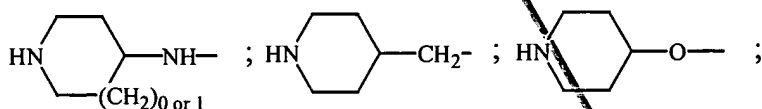
R^{5a}, R^{5b}, R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b}, or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula - (CH₂)_s- wherein s is 4 or 5;

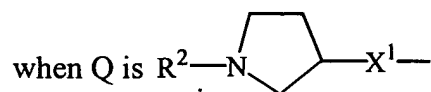
R⁶ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, formyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, and C₁₋₆alkyloxy;

provided that when G is methylene, and R¹ is 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 6-methyl-2-pyridyl, 2-pyrazinyl or 5-methyl-imidazol-4-yl, and -a¹=a²=a³=a⁴- is -CH=CH-CH=CH- or -N=CH-CH=CH-, then Q is other than

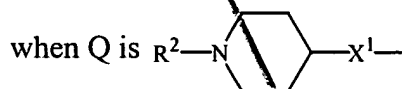


3. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



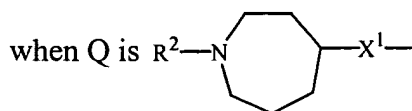
wherein X^1 is NR^4 , O, S, $S(=O)$, $S(=O)_2$, CH_2 , $C(=O)$, $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

- 5 4. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



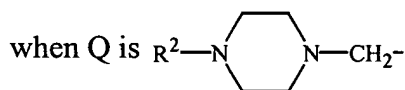
wherein X^1 is NR^4 , O, S, $S(=O)$, $S(=O)_2$, CH_2 , $C(=O)$, $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, pyridyl substituted with 1 or 2 C_{1-6} alkyloxy, pyrazinyl, pyrrolyl, pyrrolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

5. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



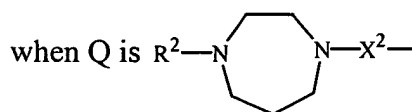
wherein X^1 is NR^4 , O, S, $S(=O)$, $S(=O)_2$, CH_2 , $C(=O)$, $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

6. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

7. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



wherein X² is CH₂ or a direct bond, then R¹ is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl.

8. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein the compound is:
- (±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-3-pyridinol; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(1,4-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; (±)-2-[[2-[(3-amino-2-hydroxypropyl)amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride dihydrate; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-chloroethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride dihydrate; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[3-amino-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride; (±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-chloro-4-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-

6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride 2-propanolate (1:1); (±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol; (±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride trihydrate; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-bromo-4-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride; 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate; (±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol; (±)-*N*-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-4-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; a prodrug, *N*-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

9. (amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein the compound is:

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-5-chloro-7-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride tetrahydrate; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,4-dimethyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,5-dimethyl-4-oxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate; 4-[[3-[[5-(methoxymethyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(5-methyl-3-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-3-[(2,4-dimethyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-2-amine; 4-[[3-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperazineethanamine; *N*-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-(4-thiazolylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; *N*-

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10- (2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidiny]-1-[(5-phenyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride; 5-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidiny]amino-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl-2-oxazolemethanol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate; N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidiny]-1-[(3-methyl-5-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate; 4-[[1-[[2-(dimethylamino)-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine tetrahydrochloride monohydrate 2-propanolate (1:1); ethyl 5-[[2-[[1-2-[[1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]ethyl]-4-piperidiny]amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-methyl-4-oxazolecarboxylate; 4-[[1-[(2-methyl-4-thiazolyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine; N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidiny]-1-[(2-methyl-3-furanyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-amine; ethyl 4-[[3-[(3-hydroxy-6-methyl-2-pyridiny]methyl)-7-methyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate; 1,1-dimethylethyl 4-[[1-[[3-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]-6-methyl-2-pyridiny]methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate; ethyl 4-[[1-[(3-amino-2-pyridiny]methyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate; N-[1-(6-methyl-2-pyridiny)-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]-1-(3-pyridiny]carbonyl)-4-piperidinamine; a prodrug, *N*-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

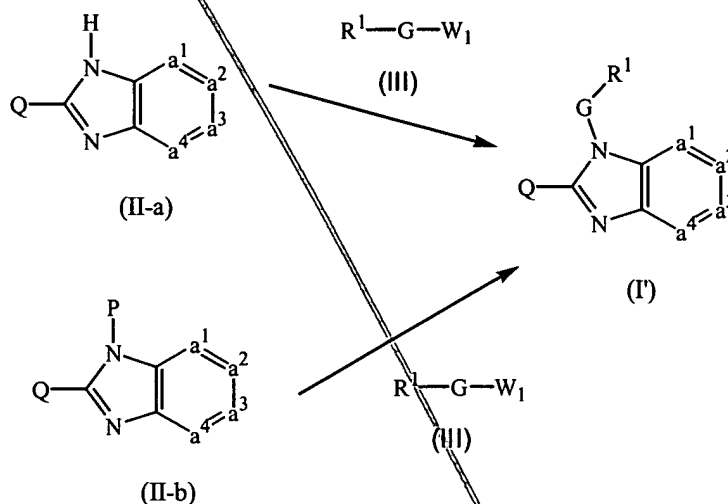
10. (amended) A method of using as a medicine a compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9.
11. (amended) A method of manufacturing a medicament for the treatment of viral infections, comprising the step of providing the compound as claimed in claim 9.
12. (amended) The method of claim 1 or 11, wherein said viral infection is a respiratory syncytial virus infection.

13. (amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and as active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9.

14. (amended) A process of preparing a composition as claimed in claim 13, comprising the step of intimately mixing said carrier with said compound.

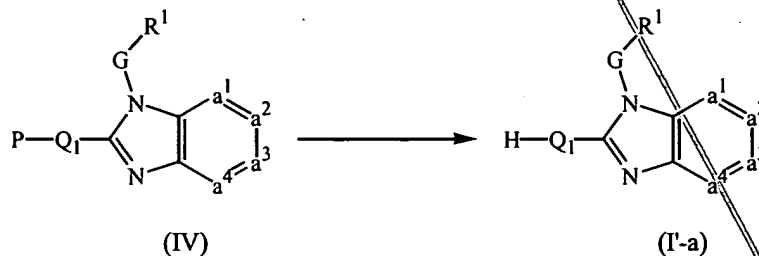
15. (amended) A process of preparing a compound as claimed in claim 2, comprising at least one step selected from the group consisting of:

a) reacting an intermediate of formula (II-a) or (II-b) with an intermediate of formula (III)



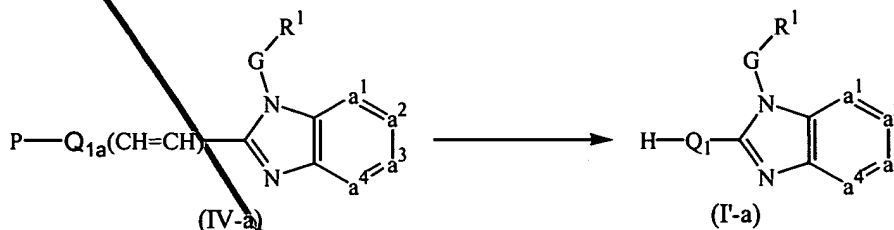
with R¹, G, Q and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and W₁ being a suitable leaving group, in the presence of a suitable base and in a suitable reaction-inert solvent;

b) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (IV)



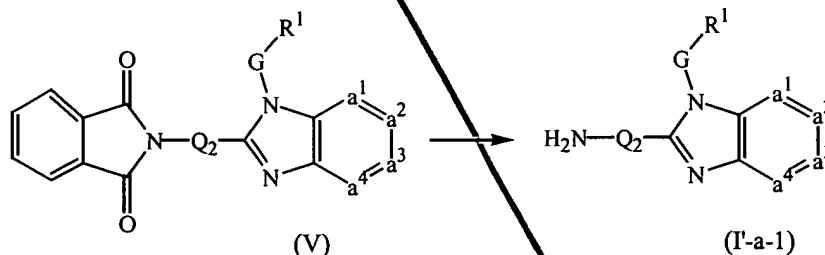
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, H-Q₁ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R² or at least one R⁶ substituent is hydrogen, and P being a protective group;

- c) deprotecting and reducing an intermediate of formula (IV-a)



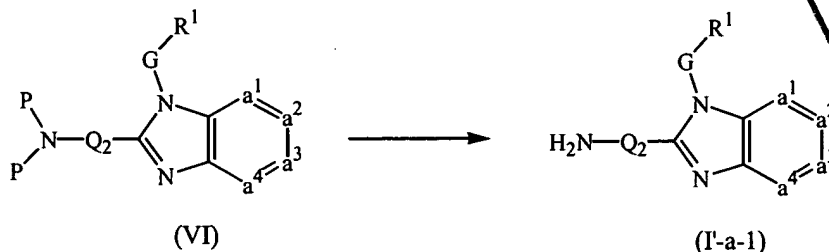
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, H-Q₁ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R² or at least one R⁶ substituent is hydrogen, Q_{1a}(CH=CH) being defined as Q₁ provided that Q₁ comprises an unsaturated bond, and P being a protective group;

- d) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (V)



with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-Q₂ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R⁶ substituents are hydrogen or R² and R⁴ are both hydrogen;

- e) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (VI)



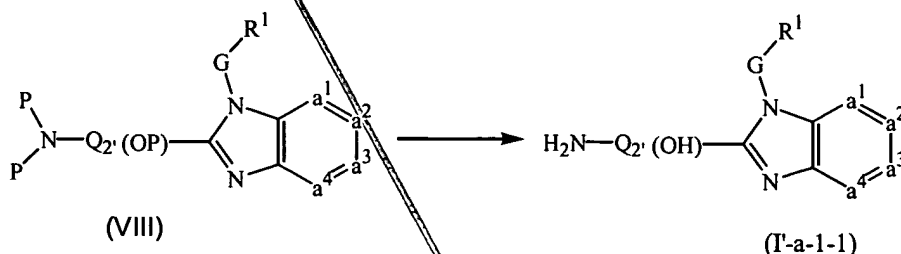
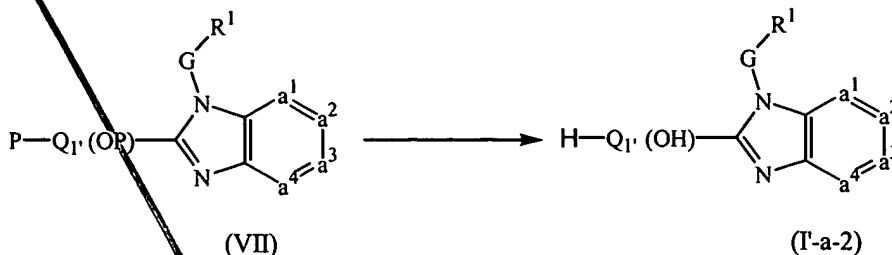
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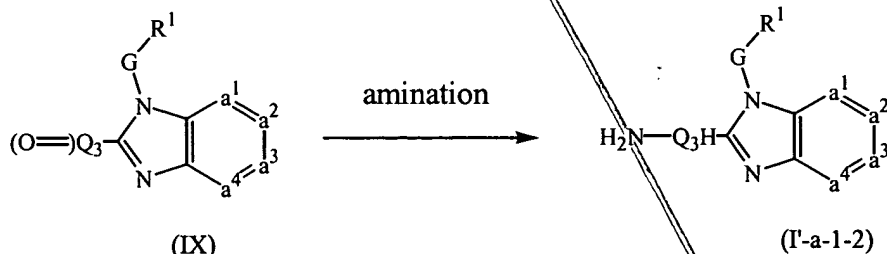
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H_2N-Q_2 being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R^6 substituents are hydrogen or R^2 and R^4 are both hydrogen, and P being a protective group;

f) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (VII) or (VIII)



with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, $H-Q_1'(OH)$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is hydrogen and provided that Q comprises a hydroxy moiety, $H_2N-Q_2'(OH)$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R^6 substituents are hydrogen or R^2 and R^4 are both hydrogen and provided that Q comprises a hydroxy moiety, and P being a protective group;

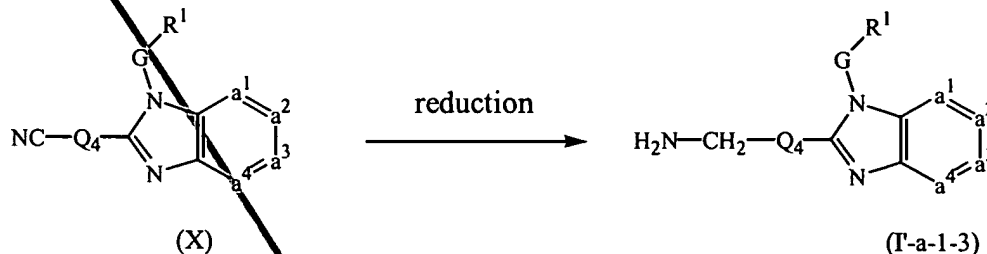
g) amination of an intermediate of formula (IX)



with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H_2N-Q_3H being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R^6 substituents are hydrogen or R^2 and R^4 are both hydrogen, and the carbon adjacent to the nitrogen carrying the R^6 , or R^2

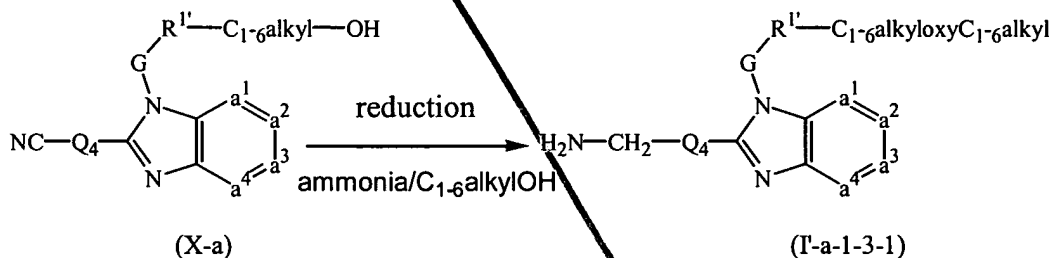
and R⁴ substituents contains at least one hydrogen, in the presence of a suitable amination reagent;

h) reducing an intermediate of formula (X)



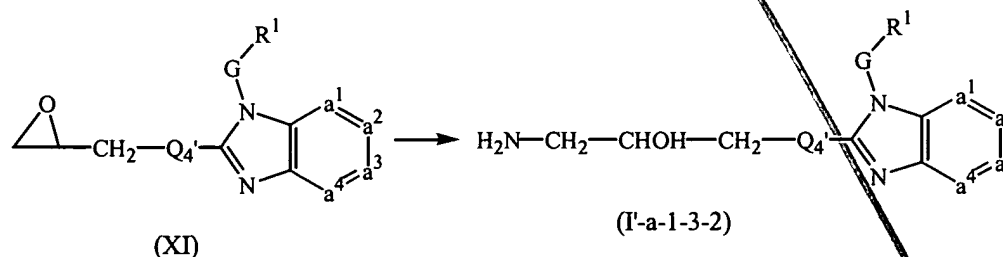
with R¹, G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-CH₂-Q₄ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a -CH₂-NH₂ moiety, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent;

i) reducing an intermediate of formula (X-a)



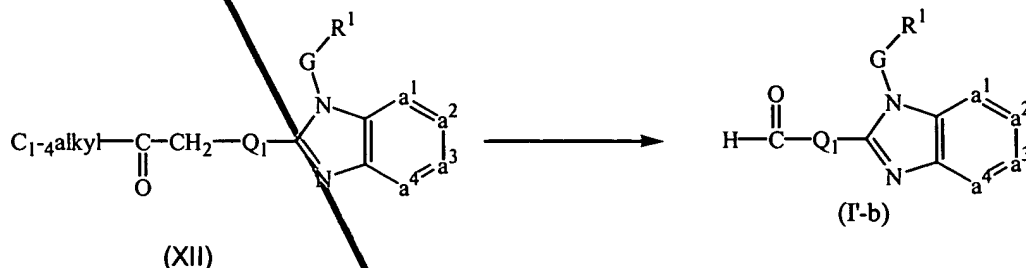
with G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, H₂N-CH₂-Q₄ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a -CH₂-NH₂ moiety, and R^{1'} being defined as R¹ according to claim 2 provided that it comprises at least one substituent, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent and suitable solvent;

j) amination of an intermediate of formula (XI)



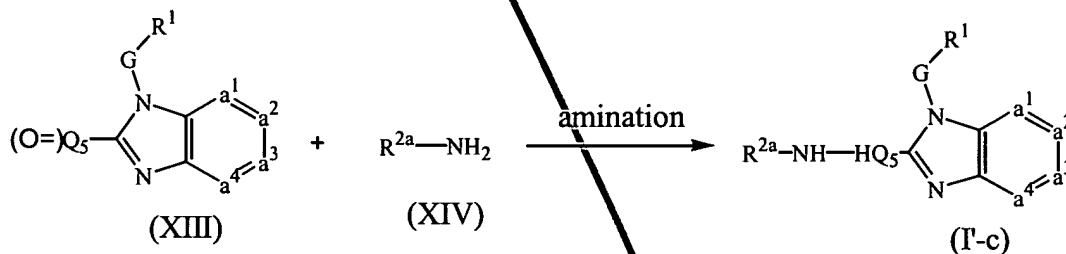
with R¹, G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-CH₂-CHOH-CH₂-Q₄' being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a CH₂-CHOH-CH₂-NH₂ moiety, in the presence of a suitable amination reagent;

- k) reacting an intermediate of formula (XII) with formic acid, formamide and ammonia



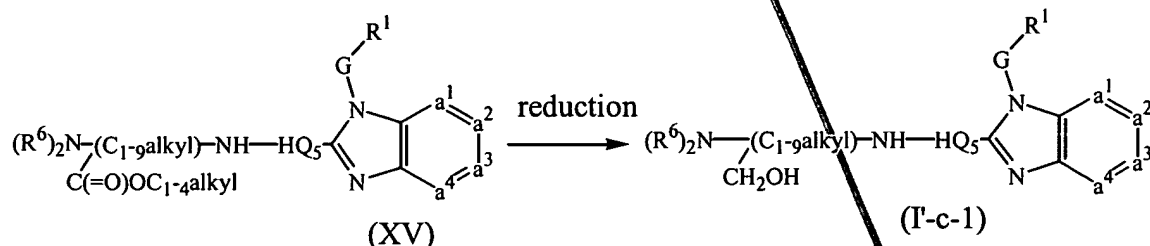
with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $\text{H}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{Q}_1$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is formyl;

- l) amination of an intermediate of formula (XIII) by reaction with an intermediate of formula (XIV)



with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $\text{R}^{2a}-\text{NH}-\text{HQ}_5$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 is other than hydrogen and is represented by R^{2a} , R^4 is hydrogen, and the carbon atom adjacent to the nitrogen atom carrying the R^2 and R^4 substituents, carries also at least one hydrogen atom, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent;

- m) reducing an intermediate of formula (XV)

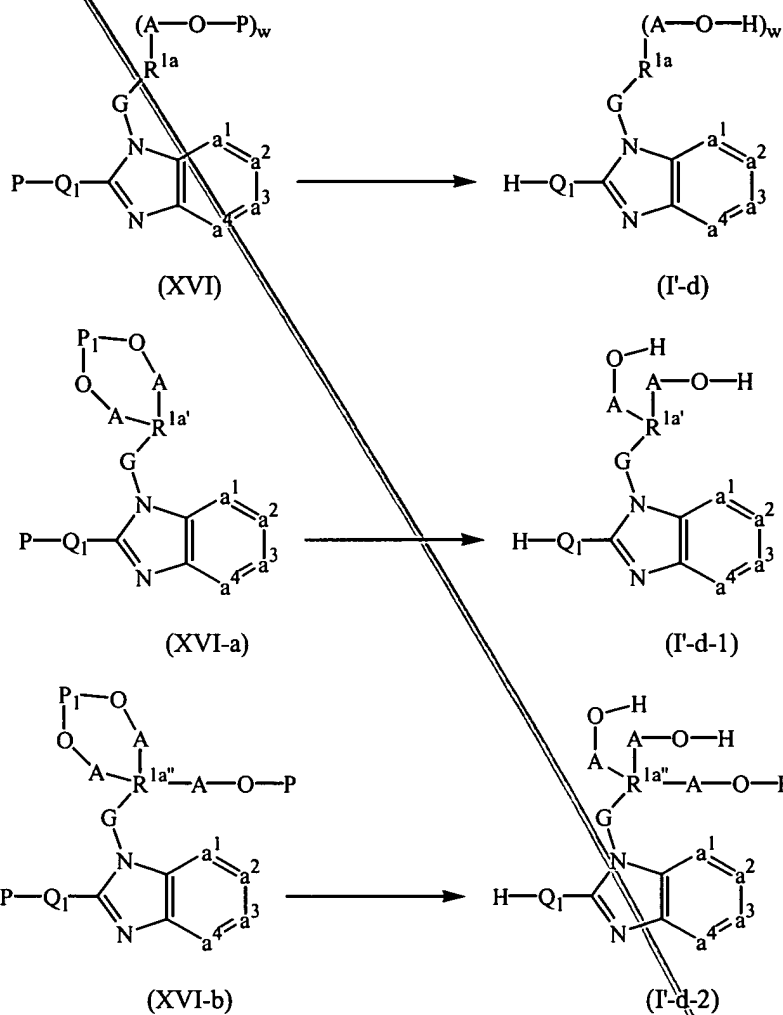


with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and

$(\text{R}^6)_2\text{N}-[(\text{C}_{1-9}\text{alkyl})\text{CH}_2\text{OH}]-\text{NH}-\text{HQ}_5$ being defined as Q according to claim 2

provided that R^2 is other than hydrogen and is represented by C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$ and with hydroxy, and the carbon atom carrying the hydroxy, carries also two hydrogen atoms, and provided that R^4 is hydrogen, and the carbon atom adjacent to the nitrogen atom carrying the R^2 and R^4 substituents, carries also at least one hydrogen atom, with a suitable reducing agent;

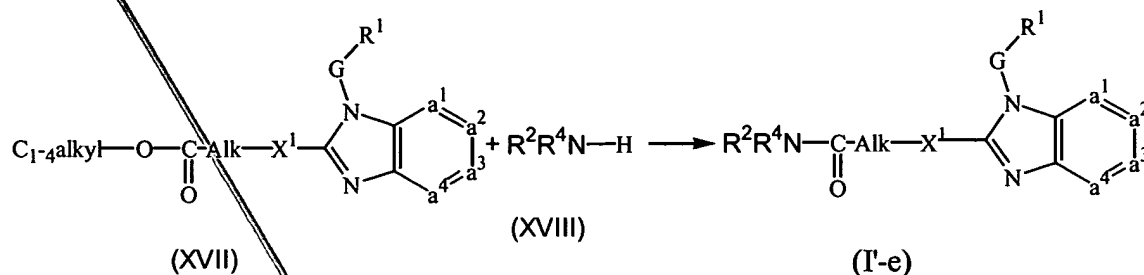
n) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (XVI), (XVI-a) or (XVI-b)



with G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $H-Q_1$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is hydrogen, and $R^{1a}-(A-O-H)_w$, $R^{1a'}-(A-O-H)_2$ and $R^{1a''}-(A-O-H)_3$ being defined as R^1 according to claim 2 provided that R^1 is substituted with hydroxy, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, or

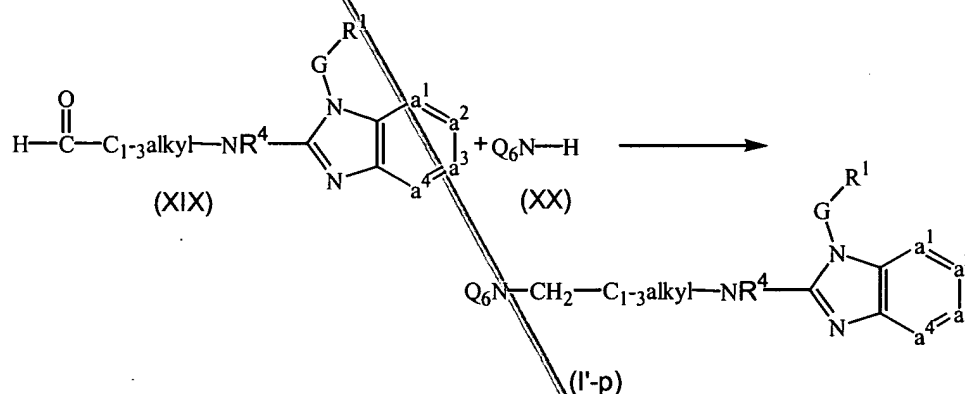
HO-(CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, with w being an integer from 1 to 4 and P or P₁ being a suitable protecting group, with a suitable acid;

o) amination of an intermediate of formula (XVII)



with R¹, G, -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴-, Alk, X¹, R² and R⁴ defined as in claim 2, in the presence of a suitable amination agent; and

p) amination of an intermediate of formula (XIX)



with R¹, G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and Q₆N-CH₂-C₁₋₃alkyl-NR⁴ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that in the definition of Q, X² is C₂₋₄alkyl-NR⁴, in the presence of a suitable amination agent.

16. (amended) A product, comprising:

(a) a first compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9; and

(b) a second antiviral compound,

wherein said first compound and said second compound are simultaneously, separately or sequentially used in the treatment or the prevention of viral infections.

17. (amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising:

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- (a) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
 - (b) as active ingredients:
 - i. a first compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9; and
 - ii. a second antiviral compound.

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Please add the following new claims:

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18. (new) The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into a therapeutically active non-toxic acid addition salt by treatment with an acid.
- 15
19. (new) The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into a therapeutically active non-toxic base addition salt by treatment with alkali.
- 20
20. (new) The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting the acid addition salt form of compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into the free base by treatment with alkali.
- 25
21. (new) The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting the base addition salt form of compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into the free acid by treatment with acid.